1	2
C.C.L.	29,187.260
N.C.L.	1,656.000
W.C.L.	2,870.000
S.E.C.L.	NIL
M.C.L.	12,745.939
Total CIL	46,523.639

(b) Delay in getting possession of land is due to title disputes, dispute amongst land owners, refusal of land owners to accept compensation, payment and hand over possession of the land demanding higher compensation, employment etc.

(c) No cash compensation for such lands as shown in reply to part (a) except for 64.44 hectares of land in respect of BCCL has been paid. Nor any employment in respect of such lands has so far been offered.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

Exporation of Gas

3215. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Amoco Corporation was given permission for exploration of methane gas in Bihar and West Bengal;

(b) if so, when the permission was given and the terms and conditions of permission;

(c) whether the Amoco Corporation has since withdrawn the project; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). Approval of the Government was accorded to M/s. Amoco India Petroleum Company (Amoco) for exploration of Coal Bed Methane gas in two blocks located in Bihar in September, 1994. The terms of approval were inter-alia as under :-

(i) M/s. Amoco will have to enter into memorandum of Understanding with Coal India Limited (CIL), setting out terms and conditions including arbitration procedures for damages to coal mines.

(ii) Commercial arrangement to be entered into between CIL and Amoco should provide for-

- Payment of statutory levies and taxes to the Government by Amoco as per prevailing laws.
- Payment of a fixed amount of Rs.1.63 crores as "Signature Bonus" to CIL by M/s. Amoco.
- payment of royalty @12.5% of the Well Head sale value of methane Gas by M/s. Amoco. Of this, 10% will be payable as royalty to the State Government and 2.5% to CIL as Production Bonus.

(iii) There will be no financial liabilities on CIL However, at a later date CIL may show their willingness in its development as a joint venture with Indian and foreign company.

(iv) Amoco will undertake their own marketing and distribution of gas without any interference from the Ministry or CIL subject to the prevailing laws of India.

(v) Import of equipment for exploration and extraction of Coal Bed Methane will be considered as a concessional duty at the same rate applicable to oil companies coming to India.

(vi) The approval is valid for a period of two years from the date of issue.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The company has since withdrawn the project on the ground that this project has not kept pace with their other CBM projects in the world.

Salt Cess

3216. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total salt cess collected by his Ministry from various salt-producing States during each of the last three years; and

(b) the manner in which this cess is spent for the welfare of the salt workers and for providing infrastructure facilities to industry in each State during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Salt Cess collected from various salt producing States during each of the last three years is as under:

(Figures in lakh rupees)

State	93-94	94-95	95-96
Gujarat	183.46	180.13	196.37
Tamil Nadu & Andhra Pradesh	27.52	27.48	28.15
Rajasthan	7.85	13.37	14.66
Maharashtra	7.07	5.16	6.25
West Bengal & Orissa	1.10	1.35	0.91
Total	227.00	227.49	246.34

(b) A Portion of the cess collected from various salt producing States is spent for the welfare of the salt workers and for providing infrastructure facilities to

industry as per the "Code of Principle" which lay down guidelines and procedure for sanction of expenditure for schemes benefiting labour and the industry. The schemes are approved by the Regional Salt Advisory Boards of the respective States. Funds released out of cess for schemes benefiting industry and labour for salt producing States during last three years include laying of approach roads in salt works, establishment of community and primary health care centres, construction of rest sheds in salt works, provision of drinking water facilities to salt labourers, organising health care and eye camps, provision of educational facilities to the children of salt labourers, construction of brine supply channels and provision of other infrastructural facilities connected with development of salt industry etc.

CIL Projects

3217. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Coal mining projects started by Coal India Ltd. during Eighth Plan period;

(b) the total amount of investment required for those projects;

(c) whether the required funds are available with CIL;

(d) if not, the sources explored by CIL acquire funds for these projects; and

(e) the present status of those project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). 28 coal mining project each costing Rs. 20 crores and above at an investment of Rs. 1655.17 crores were started by Coal India Limited (CIL) during the Eighth Five Year Plan period.

(c) and (d). Cut of 28 projects, 4 projects have since been completed. Of the remaining 24 projects, funding for 4 projects has been tied up with Suppliers. Credit and 2 projects are tied up with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) loan which is still to be finalised. Remaining 18 projects require a capital outlay of Rs. 821.12 crores and can be financed from internal resources of CIL.

(e) Of the 24 projects under implementation, 22 are progressing as per their schedule of completion. Whereas 2 are slightly slow for the reason set out at para (c) and (d) of this answer.

Production and Export of Cardamom

3218. SHRI P.C. THOMAS :
SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

[illegible] and the foreign exachange earned therefrom during each of the last three years;

(b) the reasons for decline in the export of the cardamom during the above period;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any specific plan to overcome the crisis being faced by the cardamom industry and to increase the export of cardamom;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to fixed the floor price for the cardamom during the current year; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Details of exports of cardamom (small) during the last 3 (three) years are as under :-

Year	Quantity (MTs)	Value (in lakhs Rs.)
1993-94	387	1454.83
1994-95	257	762.61
1995-96 (P)	500	1239.55

(Source: DGCI and S, Calcutta/ spices Board)

(b) Some of the reasons for decine in exports of cardamom are :

(i) Uncompetitive prices of Indian Cardamom in international market vis-a-vis Gautemala Cardamom;

(ii) Large production and absence of domestic market in Gautemala;

(iii) Shift in the buying pattern in the middle east markets towards low priced cardamom of Gautemala.

(c) and (d). Some of the steps taken by Government to increase production/productivity and exports of cardamom are; (i) production and supply of quality planting material; (ii) assistance for replantation of old, diseased plants; (iii) subsidy for Irrigation and land development; (iv) assistance for purchase of plant protection equipments; (v) suspension of export cess on cardamom; and (vi) efforts are made to popularise cardamom in domestic/international markets through participation in trade fairs, sending delegations abroad and inflight promotion.

(e) No Sir.

(f) The currently ruling prices does not necessitate fixation of a floor price for small cardamom.